Notice
February 5, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended Educational Impact Statement: The Proposed Phase-Out of J.H.S. 166 George Gershwin (19K166) Beginning in 2013-2014

I. Description of the subject and purpose of the proposed item under consideration.

The New York City Department of Education ("DOE") is proposing to phase-out J.H.S. 166 George Gershwin (19K166, "J.H.S. 166"), an existing district middle school in building K166 ("K166") located at 800 Van Siclen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207, in Community School District 19 ("District 19"). It currently serves students in grades six through eight. The DOE is proposing to phase-out J.H.S. 166 based on its poor performance and the DOE's assessment that the school lacks the capacity to improve quickly to better support student needs. In a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") also posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE is proposing to co-locate a new district middle school (19K654, "19K654") in K166. That proposal can be found here: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm. If both proposals are approved, 19K654 will grow to full scale as J.H.S. 166 phases-out. 19K654 will open with sixth grade in 2013-2014, adding one grade annually until it reaches full scale in the 2015-2016 school year, with a grade span of six through eight. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the phase-out of J.H.S. 166, it is assumed that the proposal to co-locate New Middle School in K166 will be approved by the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP"). However, if the proposal to co-locate is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying Building Utilization Plan ("BUP") will be revised as necessary.

The Educational Impact Statements have been amended to update the eligibility status of J.H.S. 166 for School Improvement Grant funding. The amended information is provided in a Notice of Amendment Section V. of the Educational Impact Statement and does not substantially revise the proposal.

If this proposal is approved, J.H.S 166 will gradually stop serving middle school students. After the 2012-2013 school year, J.H.S 166 will no longer enroll sixth-grade students. After the 2013-2014 school year, J.H.S 166 will no longer enroll seventh-grade students. After the 2014-2015 school year, J.H.S 166 will close.

In each of those years, there may be students who do not meet promotional standards and are required to repeat a grade that the school will no longer serve. These students will be enrolled in 19K654 in the grade which the student is repeating.

J.H.S. 166 is co-located with The UFT Charter School (84K359, "UFT Charter"), an existing public charter school that currently serves students in kindergarten through twelfth grade across two separate sites. In one location, building K292 ("K292"), which has entrances at both 300 Wyona Street and 301 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11207, in District 19, UFT Charter serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade. In another location, K166, UFT Charter serves students in grades six through twelve. Only the second location of UFT Charter, at K166, is impacted by the proposed closure of J.H.S. 166. In a separate EIS also posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE has proposed to resite UFT Charter's sixth through eighth grades from K166 to K292 in the 2013-2014 school year. That proposal can be found here: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm.

UFT Charter is in the process of applying for renewal of its charter from its charter authorizer, the State University of New York's Charter School Institute ("SUNY CSI"). For the purposes of this EIS, describing the phase-out of J.H.S. 166, it is assumed that SUNY CSI will approve UFT Charter's charter renewal. However, if SUNY CSI denies UFT Charter's application for renewal, the BUP associated with this proposal will be revised as necessary to accurately reflect the proposed allocation of space in K166. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the phase-out of J.H.S. 166, it is also assumed that the proposal to resite UFT Charter's middle school grades will be approved by the PEP. However, if the proposal to resite UFT Charter's middle school grades is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying BUP will be revised as necessary.

In a separate EIS also posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE is also proposing to backfill the space left vacant by UFT Charter's middle school grade with the opening and co-location a charter high school, Achievement First Charter High School 2 ("AF High School 2") in K166. That proposal can be found here: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm. If that proposal is approved, AF High School 2 will open with a ninth grade in September 2013, and would phase-in one grade each year, until it reaches full scale in 2016-2017, when AF High School 2 will serve students in ninth through twelfth grade. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the phase-out of J.H.S. 166, it is assumed that the proposal to co-locate AF High School 2 in K166 will be approved by the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP"). However, if the proposal to co-locate is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying BUP will be revised as necessary.

K166 houses two community-based organizations ("CBOs"), CAMBA and the East New York Campus Satellite of Medgar Evers College ("ENY"). ENY hosts a GED Plus program in K166. GED Plus programs help students earn their GED and prepare them for college and career options. GED programs are offered to students who are 18-21 years old and are available as full-time or part-time programs. More information about GED Programs is available: http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District79/SchoolsProgramsServices/default.htm

J.H.S. 166 admits students through the District 19 Middle School Choice process. Through the Middle School Choice process, students receive priority admission to their zoned middle school when they rank that school on their District 19 Middle School Choice application. After a zoned

school admits all zoned students matched during the District 19 Middle School Choice process, any remaining spaces at the school are open to out-of-zone District 19 students who indicated a preference for that school. J.H.S. 166 first admits students who reside in the K166 zone. If any space remains, J.H.S. 166 admits students using an unscreened selection method. Unscreened schools randomly select students from the pool of those who apply. Additional information about the District 19 Middle School Choice process and J.H.S. 166's admissions process is provided in Section III.A of this proposal.

II. Information regarding where the full text of the proposed item may be obtained.

The EIS and BUP can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of J.H.S. 166 and UFT Charter in building K166.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208.

IV. The name, office, address, email and telephone number of the city district representative, knowledgeable on the item under consideration, from whom information may be obtained concerning the item.

Name: Lauren Spillane
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208.

V. Date, time and place of joint public hearings for this proposal.

A hearing for all four proposals described above will be held at building K166.

This hearing is scheduled for:
February 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
800 Van Siclen
Brooklyn, NY 11027

Resiting proposals require two Joint Public hearings, one at each impacted site. As a result, a second hearing regarding the proposal to resite UFT Charter's sixth through eighth grades will be held at building K292.

This hearing is scheduled for:

February 27, 2013 at 6:00pm
300 Wyona Street
Brooklyn, NY 11207

Questions about the proposal should be directed as indicated in section IV above.

Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes before the hearing and will close 15 minutes after the start.

VII. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

March 11, 2013 at 6:00pm

Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Pl
Brooklyn, NY 11217